

Appl. No. 10/713,266  
Amdt. dated February 21, 2006  
Reply to Office action of November 18, 2005

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the original specification with the attached substitute specification.

Please replace the Abstract of the Disclosure with the following amended Abstract:

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The present invention provides a ~~distal~~ positioning tip for the positioning of artificial joint stem that is capable of reliably guiding the insertion of the stem of the cementless artificial joint into a bone canal and, of positioning and maintaining the distal end portion of the stem at a planned position, and prevent osteolysis and loosening of the artificial joint. The ~~distal~~ positioning tip is mounted near the distal end portion of the stem to guide the stem so as not to make direct contact with the inner surface of the bone canal of the bone when the stem of the artificial joint is inserted into the bone canal. The ~~distal~~ positioning tip is made of a biodegradable and absorbable material.